



News From MAIENstreet

A Neighborhood Newsletter From Councilmember Brian Maienschein

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Proudly Representing the
District Five
Communities of:

Carmel Mountain Ranch
Mira Mesa
Rancho Bernardo
Sabre Springs
San Pasqual
Scripps Ranch
Sorrento Mesa

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FY09 Budget Should Focus on City Infrastructure

As I enter into my final year of service as your City Councilmember, I am so proud of all that we have accomplished together to benefit our communities. Despite the occurrences of two major natural disasters and various other obstacles along the way, we have built stronger neighborhoods and greatly improved the quality of life for our families.

My District budget priorities for the upcoming fiscal year include first and foremost the additional allocation of resources to road resurfacing and slurry sealing. For the past few years, I have been fighting to obtain the necessary funding to resurface some of our community's major roads while trying to ensure that potholes are filled and patched in a timely manner. While we had success last year in getting a major portion of Pomerado Road repaved, more needs to be done and I remain committed to fighting for a fair share of resources for District 5 road improvements.

Additionally, I will once again be advocating for increased resources to be dedicated to thinning and managing the overgrown brush that plagues our City's canyons and open spaces. Brush management is an on-going battle for the communities of District 5 and regular maintenance is a critical tool in helping to prevent wildfires. I am therefore urging my Council Colleagues to make brush management a city-wide priority in this year's budget discussions.

Increased funding for public safety remains my top City-wide budget priority. Over the past couple of years, I have focused my efforts as Chair of the Public Safety and Neighborhood Services Committee to catching up on deferred maintenance. I believe that ensuring police and fire have sufficient resources and equipment is critical to maintaining and improving our quality of service and protection.

As we enter into another year of budget negotiations, it is my belief that our resources should be focused on restoring core City services and rebuilding our infrastructure. I will continue to advocate for the best and most prudent use of our tax dollars. I look forward to working to bring forth the best and most responsible budget for the people of San Diego.

As I enter my final year as your Councilmember, I want to say what an honor it has been to represent the community I grew up in. Thank you for the support you have given to me in the past and I look forward to another productive year.

Rebuilding Underway in Rancho Bernardo

As many of you know, 362 homes in Rancho Bernardo were lost to the Witch Creek Fire in late October. Since that time, my office and the City of San Diego have dedicated our time and resources to help the families who were affected begin the difficult process of rebuilding.



With the establishment of the Local Assistance Center in Rancho Bernardo and a dedicated full-time staff, I am proud to say that we are making tremendous progress. To date, 34 new sets of plans have been submitted to Development Services and eight of those have been issued building permits.

Additionally, 104 permits have been issued for the City's demolition program while 34 demolition permits have been issued to private contractors. All but five lots in Rancho Bernardo have been cleared. This is a testament to our community's incredible resolve to rebuild stronger than before and I am so honored to assist in this effort.

Maienschein Honors Long Time Sabre Springs Volunteer



Councilmember Brian Maienschein declares February 5, 2008 to be Rick Smith Day in the City of San Diego. Rick Smith served as Chair of the Sabre Springs Planning Group for eleven years before resigning in January 2008.

Slower Speeds on Sorrento Valley Boulevard



I am pleased to announce the installation of a new speed monitor on Sorrento Valley Boulevard at Shaw Lopez Road in Mira Mesa. I was able to allocate the funding for the monitor after being approached by residents of the Pacific Ridge Homeowners Association who were concerned with the increasing speeds of motorists in this area.

On January 16, 2008, I turned on the new digital monitor. The sign flashes the speed motorists are traveling if they are driving over the speed limit.

These monitors have proven to significantly reduce speeds and have been very effective in other neighborhoods of my District. I am confident that this project will greatly help in our efforts to keep our community safe.

A second digital speed monitor will be installed at Sorrento Valley Boulevard and Sea Mist within the next few weeks. I would like to thank the community members who brought this need to my attention.

Maienschein to Chair Fire Prevention and Recovery Committee

I am pleased to announce that this year I will be chairing a new council committee whose sole purpose will be to analyze the causes and effects of our regions devastating wildfires and to implement new and improved strategies to combat and prevent these disasters.

The committee will meet monthly at City Hall and is open to the public. The committee will be analyzing data from both the 2003 and 2007 wildfires in order to evaluate and bolster fire preparedness and response in the City of San Diego. Some of the specific issues that we will be tackling are response procedures, evacuation plans, allocation of resources and potential development code, budget and brush management changes.

I advocated for the formation of this ad hoc committee in an effort to more proactively address the specific causes of our region's wildfires and to work on aggressive prevention and protection methods.

I look forward to working collaboratively with our communities on these issues. I am confident that improvements can be made that will be invaluable to our City when the next fire strikes.





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<http://www.sandiego.gov/city-council/district-5>

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It's a pleasure to serve you on the San Diego City Council!